



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

We cannot say *these crowd*, even though the dependencies immediately following may prove conclusively that *crowd* is used with plural import. The three apparent exceptions—*these people*, *these kind*, *these sort*—do not affect the integrity of the principle.

(2) No illustrative sentences are cited in which the influence of a partitive genitive following the collective may have influenced the sequent concord, the contention being that the trend from singular to plural is normal, or psychological, and not dependent on environment or attraction.

The principle, then, may be stated thus: The normal tendency of the collective is from unity to plurality. Though the collective may at the outset represent a plural conception, its singular form enables it for a short while to hold its own as a singular and to keep its dependencies singular; but as it begins to share in the activity of the sentence, and as thought becomes more and more focussed upon it, disintegration sets it; it escapes from the thralldom of its singular form, and its dependencies all become plural. This is but an illustration of the psychological law that to visualize a concept is at the same time to individualize it.

16. "The true relation of the Belfagor novels of Machiavelli, Doni, and Brevio." By Professor A. Gerber, of Earlham College, Richmond, Ind. [Read by title.]

The true relation of the three Belfagor stories can only be determined by a critical comparison of the manuscript of Machiavelli with the earliest prints of the three stories. The main results of such a comparison are the following:

1. Doni's version agrees verbatim with the manuscript of Machiavelli, except the first two pages and a half and a few lines on the last.

2. The parts of Doni's version which do not agree with it differ in their whole tenor so much from the rest as to betray themselves thereby as changes made by Doni.

3. The original manuscript of the Belfagor story which Doni claims to have had in his hand must, therefore, have been the manuscript of Machiavelli.

4. By basing his own version on Machiavelli's and not on Brevio's, Doni doubtlessly casts his evidence together with Giunti in favor of Machiavelli against Brevio.

5. The versions of Brevio and Machiavelli are not copies, the one of the other, but the one rewrote the version of the other in his own style.

6. The agreement in expression and division into sentences, however, is such that the one cannot simply have heard the story of the other told, but that the one must have used the manuscript or a copy of the manuscript of the other.

7. Some particular divergencies can only be explained by the assumption that Brevio made use of Machiavelli and not *vice versa*.

8. Hence, the evidence from the manuscript and earliest prints, as well as Doni's evidence, pronounce Machiavelli the author of the story.

Adding to this accessory evidence from the history of the Belfagor story in Italy and other countries two more conclusions may be drawn :

1. Machiavelli took the *outline* of the story, which perhaps already included the council in Hell, either from popular tradition or from some unknown written source.

2. There is no reliable proof or probability that there ever existed a Latin manuscript which gave the story in a form *closely* resembling that of Machiavelli's, Brevio's and Doni's stories.

In accordance with the nominations made by the Committee on Officers the following officers were elected for the ensuing year :

President, C. Alphonso Smith.

Secretary and Treasurer, H. Schmidt-Wartenberg.

First Vice-President, A. H. Edgren.

Second Vice-President, Edward P. Morton.

Third Vice-President, Katharine Merrill.

Members of the Council, J. S. Nollen, Ernst Voss, F. I. Carpenter, A. G. Canfield.

Professor L. Fossler reported that the Auditing Committee had examined the accounts and vouchers of the Treasurer and found them correct.

On motion of Professor F. A. Blackburn the cordial thanks of the Association were extended to the University of Nebraska and the Local Committee for their hospitable entertainment.

The meeting adjourned at 11.45 a. m.

CORRECTIONS.

P. 356, l. 10, *read* versification; that.—P. 356, l. 11 *from below*, *read* has not.—P. 363, l. 11 *from below*, *read* exigencies do arise.—P. 364, l. 10 *from below*, *read* is suggestive.
